

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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R 170930Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 949

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8079

C.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, JA

SUBJ: RIGHTTEST ATTACKS PRIME MINISTER

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY A YOUNG MEMBER OF THE ULTRA-RIGHTIST GREATER JAPAN PATRIOTIC PARTY RUSHED PRIME MINISTER MIKI AND HIT HIM TWICE IN THE FACE, KNOCKING HIM FLAT, JUNE 16. TWENTY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SAME GROUP ALSO ATTEMPTED TO PUSH OPEN AMEMBASSY GATE EARLIER IN THE DAY. BOTH ACTIONS WERE LINKED TO OPPOSITION TO THE NPT. END SUMMARY.

1. A 34-YEAR OLD ULTRA-NATIONALIST, HIROYOSHI FUDEYASU, ASSAULTED PRIME MINISTER TAKEO MIKI AS HE WAITED FOR THE ASHES OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER SATO OUTSIDE TOKYO'S MARTIAL ARTS HALL (BUDOKAN) SHORTLY BEFORE 2:00PM ON JUNE 16. ATTACK ALLEGEDLY WAS TO PROTEST JAPAN'S PROPOSED RATIFICATION OF THE NPT WHICH THE PRIMIN SUPPORTS. MIKE WAS KNOCKED FLAT BY TWO HARD BLOWS TO THE FACE BUT CONTINUED WITH THE FUNERAL SERVICE. HIS ASSAILANT WAS SOON OVERPOWERED BY BODY GUARDS AND POLICEMEN. MIKE SUFFERED WHAT WERE DESCRIBED AS MINOR BRUISES BUT THEY WERE SUFFICIENT TO FORCE HIM TO MISS A JUNE 7 CABINET MEETING.

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2. FUDEYASU IS A WELL KNOWN MEMBER OF BIN AKAO'S GREAT JAPAN PATRIOTIC PARTY (AIKOKUTO). ALTHOUGH FUDEYASU CARRIED A KNIFE, HE CLAIMED HE HAD NO INTENTION OF HURTING THE PRIMIN. FUDEASU HAS A RECORD OF MORE THAN 50 ARRESTS ACCORDING TO POLICE.

3. ABOUT TWO HOURS EARLIER SOME TWENTY MEMBERS OF THE SAME PARTY ALONG WITH SOME OTHER ULTRANATIONALIST GROUPS, DRESSED IN BLACK UTILITY UNIFORMS WITH HELMETS AND RIOT CLUBS, RAN A TRUCK UP TO THE FRONT GATE OF THE TEMPORARY CHANCERY BUILDING. THEY TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO PUSH OPEN THE GATE. AFTER SCUFFLING BRIEFLY WITH RIOT POLICE, THEY DROVE OFF TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY. NO ARRESTS WERE MADE. AGAIN, THE PURPOSE OF THE GROUP WAS TO PROTEST POSSIBLE JAPANESE RATIFICATION OF THE NPT. THE ULTRANATIONALISTS RETURNED AGAIN BRIEFLY ON JUNE 17.

4. COMMENT. THE ASSAULT ON PRIME MINISTER MIKE WAS SHOWN LIVE ON TELEVISION SCREENS THROUGHOUT THE NATION AND, DESPITE DESCRIPTIONS OF MINOR INJURIES, THE PRIME MINISTER WAS HIT TWICE IN THE FACE SUFFICIENTLY HARD TO KNOCK HIM FLAT ON THE GROUND. AS POLICE BEGAN THEIR POST MORTEMS, AND OBVIOUS CONCLUSION IS THE NEED FOR BETTER SECURITY FOR HIM -- AND OTHER VIPS-- AT LEAST THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD OF NPT DISCUSSION WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO END JULY 4.

5. THE ATTEMPTED ENTRY INTO EMBASSY GROUNDS WAS THE SECOND BY THIS GROUP. THE FIRST CAME ON MAY 6 WHEN THE POLICE, WITH SOME PRIOR NOTICE, WERE ABLE TO BLOCK THE ROUTE TO THE CHANCERY SOME 100 YARDS AWAY.

6. THE GREAT JAPAN PATRIOTIC PARTY IS BUT ONE OF SEVERAL ULTRA-RIGHTIST GROUPS OPPOSED TO RATIFICATION OF THE NPT, WHICH THEY COMPARE TO THE "UNEQUAL" WASHINGTON TREATY OF 1922 WHICH SET A LEVEL FOR THE JAPANESE NAVY BELOW THAT OF THE U.S. AND U.K. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT FURTHER INCIDENTS COULD OCCUR AROUND JUNE 19-20 WHEN THE NPT MAY PASS THE LOWER HOUSE AND JULY 2-4 WHEN RATIFICATION MIGHT OCCUR THROUGH UPPER HOUSE PASSAGE.
HODGSON

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